

In the claims:

Please amend the Claims by (strikethrough or [[double-brackets]]) indicating deletion and underline indicating insertion) as follows:

1. – 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A safety rope system for preventing injury to a user should the user fall from an elevated position, the user being supported in the elevated position by a platform, seat, or other device, and the user not being supported by the safety rope system except in the case of a fall from, or failure of, the platform, seat, or other device, the safety rope system comprising consisting of:

a safety harness to be worn by the user;

a standing rope line for attachment to a tree, pole, or the like, support structure above the platform, seat or other device with a first end of the standing rope line being adapted to be secured to the tree, pole, or the like, support structure above the platform, seat or other device, and a second end hangs towards the ground; and

a sliding rope coupler for attaching the safety harness to the standing rope line, the sliding rope coupler comprising consisting of a length of rope with multiple loops wrapped about the standing line of rope to be slidable along at least a portion of the length of the standing rope line, with the sliding rope coupler having its ends joined together for attaching the safety harness thereadjacent, wherein said sliding rope coupler is freely repositionable along said standing rope line when not loaded, but resists sudden downward movement relative to said standing rope line when under load, wherein the safety harness, the standing rope line, and the sliding rope coupler do not support the weight of the user except in the event that the platform, seat, or other device should fail or the user should fall off thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The safety rope system of Claim 9, wherein said the first end of the standing rope line comprises includes a looped portion.

11. (Currently Amended) The safety rope system of Claim 9, wherein said standing rope line ~~comprises~~ includes a clip.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The safety rope system of Claim 9, wherein the sliding rope coupler is made from a rope that has a smaller diameter than that of the standing rope line.

14. (Currently Amended) The safety rope system of Claim 9, wherein the sliding rope coupler ~~comprises~~ is a Prusik hitch.

15. (Currently Amended) The safety rope system of Claim 9, further comprising including a carabiner for releasably securing the sliding rope coupler to the safety harness.

16. (Currently Amended) The safety rope system of Claim 9, wherein said safety harness ~~comprises~~ is a belt.

17. (Currently Amended) The safety rope system of Claim 9, wherein said safety harness ~~comprises~~ is a multi-point body harness.

18. – 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Newly added) A safety rope system for preventing injury to a user should the user fall from an elevated position, the user being supported in the elevated position by a platform, seat, or other device, and is not supported by the safety rope system except in the case of a fall from the platform, seat, or other device, the safety rope system consisting of:

a safety harness to be worn by the user;

a standing rope line for attachment to a support structure above the platform, seat or other device with a first end of the standing rope line being securable to the

support structure above the platform, seat or other device and a second end hangs downward; and

a sliding rope loop being securable to the safety harness, the sliding rope loop including a knotted length of rope with multiple loops wrapped about the standing line of rope to be slidable along at least a portion of the length of the standing rope line, wherein the sliding rope loop is made from a rope that has a smaller diameter than that of the standing rope line, wherein said knotted length of rope is freely repositionable along said standing rope line when not loaded, but tightens around the standing rope line to resist sudden downward movement when under load, and wherein the safety harness, the standing rope line, and the sliding rope loop do not support the weight of the user except in the event that the user falls from the platform, seat, or other device.

24. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 23, wherein with the sliding rope loop has its ends joined together for attaching the safety harness.

25. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 23, wherein the knotted length of rope is a Prusik hitch.

26. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 23, wherein the knotted length of rope is a Kleimheist knot.

27. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 23, wherein the knotted length of rope is a Blake's hitch.

28. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 23, wherein the knotted length of rope is a Kreutzklem knot.

29. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 23, wherein said safety harness is a belt.

30. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 23, wherein said safety harness is a multi-point body harness.

31. (Newly added) A safety rope system for preventing injury to a user should the user fall from an elevated position, the user being supported in the elevated position by a platform, seat, or other device, and is not supported by the safety rope system except in the case of a fall from the platform, seat, or other device, the safety rope system consisting of:

a safety harness to be worn by the user; and

a standing rope line for attachment to a support structure above the platform, seat or other device with a first end of the standing rope line being securable to the support structure above the platform, seat or other device and a second end hangs downward;

a sliding rope loop being securable to the safety harness, the sliding rope loop including a Prusik hitch wrapped about the standing line of rope to be slidable along at least a portion of the length of the standing rope line, wherein the sliding rope loop is made from a rope that has a smaller diameter than that of the standing rope line, wherein said Prusik hitch is freely repositionable along said standing rope line when not loaded, but tightens around the standing rope line to resist sudden downward movement when under load, and wherein the safety harness, the standing rope line, and the sliding rope loop do not support the weight of the user except in the event that the user falls from the platform, seat, or other device.

32. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 31, wherein said safety harness is a belt.

33. (Newly added) The safety rope system of Claim 31, wherein said safety harness is a multi-point body harness.